

IAP15 Rec'd PCT/PTO 27 DEC 2005

Docket No.: 052363-0030

PATENT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of	:	Customer Number: 20277
	:	
Katsumi OKAMURA, et al. assigned	:	Confirmation Number: Not yet
	:	
Application No.: Not yet assigned	:	Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned
	:	
Filed: December 27, 2005	:	Examiner: Not yet assigned
	:	
For: SURFACE-COATED HIGH HARDNESS MATERIAL FOR TOOL		

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the application and no certification or fee is required.

A copy of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information. Please note this is a PCT application in the entry of the National Phase in the U.S. and copies of the references cited were transmitted by WIPO and are believed to be in the file of the above identified application and readily available to the Examiner. Therefore it is believed that Applicants have met all requirements regarding duty of disclosure under 37

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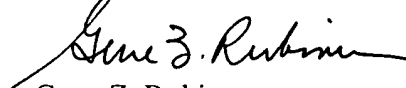
CFR 1.56. Acknowledgement and consideration of these documents are respectfully requested.

However, to ensure that these references are available to the Examiner, we are providing copies of these references herewith. Since the Search Report was from the U.S. JPO or EPO search authorities, copies of these references should have been supplied to the USPTO under the trilateral agreement and are believed to be in the file of the above identified application and readily available to the Examiner.

The relevance of **JP 2001-234328 A** and **JP 8-119774 A**, is discussed in the present specification.

Respectfully submitted,

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**Please recognize our Customer No. 20277
as our correspondence address.**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (PTO-1449)				ATTY. DOCKET NO. 052363-0030		SERIAL NO. Not yet assigned 10/562485	
				APPLICANT Katsumi OKAMURA, et al.			
				FILING DATE December 27, 2005		GROUP Not yet assigned	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
		US					
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Foreign Patent Document Country Codes-Number + -Kind Codes (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Figures Appear	Translation Yes No	
		JP 2000-308906 A	11-07-2000	AGENCY OF IND SCIENCE & TECHNOL OSG CORP		JAPAN (w/English Abstract)	
		JP 2001-293602 A	10-23-2001	SUMITOMO ELECTRIC IND LTD		JAPAN (w/English Abstract)	
		JP 11-131217 A	05-18-1999	HITACHI TOOL ENG LTD BALZERS AG		JAPAN (w/English Abstract)	
		JP 2001-234328 A	08-31-2001	TOSHIBA TUNGALOY CO LTD		JAPAN (w/English Abstract)	
		JP 8-119774 A	05-14-1996	SUMITOMO ELECTRIC IND LTD		JAPAN (w/English Abstract)	
OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.					
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.